

# MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

## Success Stories from the Field

### Schaefers Electrical Enclosures

Missouri Enterprise

#### Multiphase Continuous Improvement Helps Schaefers Electrical Enclosures Remain Competitive

##### Client Profile:

Schaefers Electrical Enclosures produces a wide range of custom carbon and stainless steel enclosures for electrical equipment. Schaefers' customers include distributors and original equipment manufacturers throughout the country. The company employs 40 people at its facility in Advance, Missouri.

##### Situation:

Schaefers recently experiencing dramatic growth in volume and an expanding workforce, realized the need to evaluate and upgrade its important document control and customer information order systems. The upgrade was necessary for effective operations and to become ISO 9001:2000 compliant. Company management also wanted to extend its efforts to incorporate industry "best practices" and state-of-the-art technology to maximize the efficiency of its workforce and increase productivity. They contacted Missouri Enterprise, a NIST MEP network affiliate, for help.

##### Solution:

Missouri Enterprise developed a multiphase project that began with 5S training and implementation support, and included bringing the company's processes and documentation into ISO compliance with the development of a series of 15 visual work instructions. Combining photographs and descriptions, employees quickly became proficient in key areas such as bending and braking, welding and powder coating. The changes also allowed the company to efficiently train new employees.

##### Results:

- \* Increased sales by \$950,000.
- \* Realized cost savings of \$250,000.0

##### Testimonial:

"The Missouri Enterprise team is very professional and knowledgeable. Working with them was very easy as they understand the demands of operating a manufacturing facility."

Mark Diamond, President